

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

DECEMBER 15, 2020

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 330 North Main Street Suite 200 Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Councilman Berkemeier led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Brad Berkemeier, Elton Marzon, Mike Daubenspeck, Aaron Gurley, and Nick Culley, Youth Liaison, answered roll call.

MINUTES: Marzon moved to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting as presented. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried with Councilman Daubenspeck abstaining from the vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT: Clerk-Treasurer Copley asked for 3 volunteers to come in and approve the final docket on December 30th. Berkemeier, Bridges, and Daubenspeck volunteered.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Council President Berkemeier reported that he attended a meeting this afternoon regarding the revolving loan fund. A loan was approved for Terry Gwinup and Sports and Outdoors.

Berkemeier also said there will be a draft out for review of the Comp Plan for public comment.

Berkemeier wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Berkemeier said he would like to give kudos to the new guys on Council. He felt like everyone has bonded over the year. We had some tough stuff to work through and he thought everyone worked very well together.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Stellar Designation** – We had a walk through on the Morgan Street project. A punch list is being prepared.
- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – Nothing.

- **APC/BZA** – There is a meeting tomorrow.
- **Housing** – The Board of Works approved a contract with Tesco for the North Washington project. The progress on the Villas is continuing. The Boulders has changed the name to The Lakes of Rushville and Grandview Village.
- **ECDC** –The Board of Works approved to update the contract with the ECDC.
- **Cherry Street** – Nothing.
- **Diversity & Inclusion Council** – Nothing.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Park – Park Director Burklow thanked Jemmy Miller and his crew for helping with the demolition of Willkie Park.

Fire – Chief Munson reported that he has 2 medics off on quarantine.

Six of his employees took the drone class and all passed.

Police – Chief Tucker said he received a fully executed 911 contract from Leigh Morning.

Street – Commissioner Miller reported that 3 of his employees have tested positive for Covid.

They will have trucks out in the morning for the anticipated snow.

Animal – Director Hanna sent pictures today of the graphics for the van, the new floor, and the kennels. She is hoping to have the kennels completed by the end of the year.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: Berkemeier said he received a call from Jeff Wilson requesting the possibility of looking into making UTV's legal on city streets. Berkemeier told him he would bring it to Council for consideration, however he did not think it was a good idea.

Crystal Woods is requesting tornado sirens south of town.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Rushville Property Revitalization Program** – Documents have been completed to move the matter forward. Sheehan reported that the Board of Works approved the documentation and to advertise the project. Hopefully we can have a recommendation from Ara by February. Bridges made a motion to move forward with the advertisement and bidding of the Big O Tire building. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining from the vote.
2. **Protest Guidelines** – The first meeting was held December 15, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Planning and Zoning Ordinance 2020-27 Amendment for Overlay Districts and Special Exceptions** – The Plan Commission gave a favorable recommendation. Marzon moved

to approve Ordinance 2020-27. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.

2. **Health Insurance Revision** – We have been advised that if we maintain 100 employees or less it will help our insurance rates. If someone is receiving a W-2 they are considered employees. It may be in our best interest to see if some of the board members can't be switched over to receive a 1099.

3. **City Utilities Salary Ordinance and Wage Study -**

Berkemeier said he would like to have discussion because it doesn't seem cut and dry. He said he understands what they are trying to accomplish, but we also need to look back at some of the issues this past year. We need to compensate in a manner that we get quality employees. Pavey said we need to give credit to Phil King for his work. Gurley said he did not think the numbers were out of line. He said you get what you pay for. He is in favor of a pay scale.

After further discussion Marzon moved to approve the utility salary proposal as presented. Gurley seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.

Ordinance 2020-21- Adopting the Utility Salary & Wage Schedule – Berkemeier moved to approve Ordinance 2020-21. Gurley seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.

4. **Animal Control Ordinance 2020-29 Amending Animal Control Ordinance to include Bond** – Bridges made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-29. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.
5. **Booker T Washington Community Center – Imagine: Nation Proposal** - Marzon said this is a good proposal. He said he thought the Art's Council is a perfect fit. Gurley moved to approve the proposal. Berkemeier seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.
6. **Indiana on Tap Libations by the Levee** – This is a 4-year agreement with the same amount for 2021 and an increase of 5% each year thereafter. Berkemeier moved to approve the agreement. Marzon seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.

Covid-19 Update: The County and City will be receiving 10% of their earlier reward. We have been asked by the County to handle the media side of education. We are putting our funds towards safety education with billboards, newspaper, and radio.

CLAIMS: Berkemeier moved to approve the claims as presented. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried with Daubenspeck abstaining.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Nothing.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Berkemeier moved to adjourn. Marzon seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.